Arresting migration to urban areas

*59. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any policy to make life in rural areas livable and also provide employment there, so that the inflow to urban area as is arrested; and

(b) if not, the other measures undertaken to help the urban poor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The Government of India has adopted a two pronged approach for tackling rural poverty in the country: firstly by providing basic amenities in rural areas through schemes like Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Bharat Nirman, Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, National Rural Health Mission, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Mid Day Meal (MDM) Scheme; and secondly by targeted employment generation schemes like Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), and the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS).

(b) In the urban areas, the Government is implementing the Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) for addressing the income generation/livelihood needs of the urban poor living below the poverty line. The scheme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) strives to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed and underemployed poor by firstly, encouraging the setting up of self-employment ventures by those who have not studied beyond 9th standard and, secondly, by providing wage employment for construction of socially and economically useful public assets. Further, the shelter and basic amentities requirements of the urban poor are addressed through the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM). The sub-Mission of Basic Service for Urban Poor (BSUP) under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) caters to 63 identified Cities and Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) applies to cities/ towns other than the 63 identified cities. The Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) stipulates and provision of education, health and social security benefits to the urban poor through convergence of all relevant programmes of the Central and State Governments at the urban local body level.

ISRO's help to Israel in launching satellite

*60. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Israel recently availed of the expertise/facilities of ISRO for launching their satellite into the space;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the process of the mutual negotiation which culminated into the final launching in chronological order;

(c) the terms of the service;

(d) whether the expertise/facilities of ISRO are offered to other countries as well as commercial venture/bilateral agreements;

(e) whether any protocol is adhered to necessitating prior disclosure of the purpose of a proposed satellite, etc.;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the activities proposed for the Israeli satellite?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (g) On 21st January, 2008, India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle, PSLV-C10

launched the 300 kg. TECSAR satellite, from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota. The launch of PSLV-C10 was executed under a commercial contract signed on 14 August, 2005 between Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) and ANTRIX Corporation.

2. TECSAR is a Synthetic Aperture Radar satellite with the capability to carry out all weather imaging. Satellite with similar resolution are in commercial use world-wide. India was not involved in the making of the satellite.

3. Contractual terms for launch services follow a standard format. This is common to all international service providers. India obtained commercial rights for the launch of the Israeli satellite on the basis of its technological capability as well as the lower costs of an Indian launch.

4. Earlier, in October 2002, the Indian Space Research Organisation and the Israeli Space Agency signed an umbrella Agreement for Civilian Cooperation in Space Matters. This was to enable both parties to (i) identify areas of mutual interest for cooperation in space research, (ii) secure support for applications in fields such as satellite instrument observation and measurement, (iii) develop opportunities for space related research using ground facilities; and (iv) arrange for exchange of scientists.

5. ANTRIX Corporation is the marketing arm of ISRO providing commercial marketing services for ISRO's products in three areas, *viz.* (i) worldwide marketing of data from Indian Remote Sensing satellites, (ii) marketing of transponder capacity of INSAT for television and telecommunication services and (iii) providing launch services using launch vehicles such as PSLV and GSLV for foreign satellites.

6. Serveral small/medium weight class of satellites have been launched by ANTRIX Corporation on commercial terms for countries such as Germany, Belgium, Korea, Indonesia, Argentina and Italy. So far, eight commercial satellites belonging to international customers have been successfully launched using Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV). During 2007, LAPAN-TUBSAT a micro satellite belonging to Indonesia, NANO-PEHUENSAT belonging to Argentina and a primary satellite AGILE belonging to Italian Space Agency were successfully launched.

7. India has also been sharing data from its Remote Sensing Satellites with several Global users — all of whom have sought such assistance. CARTOSAT-1 and RESOURCERSAT-1 satellites have been employed extensively for such missions. All such launches have been contracted as commercial launches.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Indoor stadium in Uttarakhand

199. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be leased to state:

(a) the details of proposals received from Uttarakhand State regarding construction of indoor stadium in the State;

(b) whether the above proposal contains one of the proposals regarding indoor stadium to be constructed in college situated in Ranikhet; and

(c) if so, by when this proposal is likely to be approved?